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R.M.I. MONTHLY (APRIL, MAY) NARRATIVE REPORT

APPLIED AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROJECT

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I. Introduction

The contract between the Department of Agriculture and RMI finally secured all necessary approvals and was signed April 12, 1982.

II. Personnel

1. Expatriate PERSONNEL.

Dr. William L. Collier, Chief-of-Party for RMI, began work March 22, 1982 and Carl R. Fritz, Administrative Specialist, began April 1.

Two short term fisheries consultants deputed from ICLARM, Dr. Ching-ming Kuo and Dr. Roger F. Pullin, arrived May 10. Dr. Ching-ming Kuo stayed in Indonesia for 9 days and Dr. Pullin for 19 days.

Efforts to fill positions in Bogor and Maros continued through this period. Although not yet having signed his contract, Mr. Roland E. Harwood has accepted the position as Research Station Development Specialist. He should arrive in late July.

Discussion with IRRI continued on the subcontract which would, at the least, make it possible for Dr. Jerry Mc Intosh to remain in Indonesia. He would fill the position originally designed for an agricultural economist. The terms of reference for the position has been changed to a farming system specialist.

RMI has located four potential tuber crops breeders and it will be up to AARD to decide which person most nearly fulfills their expectations for this position.

At the Maros Research Institute for Food Crops there are three positions to be filled in July 1982. The position of soil scientist will most likely be filled by Dr. C. Corpuz, though it has not yet been decided whether he will be part of the IRRI subcontract. RMI has suggested several candidates for the plant protection specialist and agricultural economics position.

2. Indonesian Personnel.

To provide assistance to the experts, the contract between RMI and AARD provides for a certain number of secretaries and administrative assistants. Since the Chief-of-Party and Administrative Specialist will be in Bogor/Jakarta, RMI established a branch office in Bogor

to assist AARD in every way possible. This office will have a guest house which can provide accomodation for both Indonesian staff, visitors, and short term personnel associated with AARD.

The following Indonesian staff was hired during this period:

Administrative Assistants

1. Ms. Irna Soetomo, Bogor
2. Mr. Sulaeman, Jakarta

Secretaries

1. Ms. Hertti Permana, Bogor
2. Ms. Anila Savitri

Drivers

1. Mr. Sulaeman, Bogor
2. Mr. Ukmad Sumarta, Bogor
3. Mr. Sidik bin Marta, Jakarta.

III. Major Events

1. In May the first activity of RMI in the contract was to bring two fisheries specialists to Indonesia to assist the Central Research Institute for Fisheries. Dr. Ching-ming Kuo and Dr. Roger Pullin from the

International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management were asked to help develop a national research program, primarily in inland fisheries, to suggest training programs for the staff of the experiment stations, and to give advice on research station design. They have submitted a draft report which will be revised and sent to AARD in June.

2. Dr. Collier attended the research consultation meetings sponsored by AARD in Ambon. This provided him with an opportunity for discussions with the directors of most of the research stations included in the AARP.

3. AARD has provided RMI consultants with vehicles and supplied Rp 21 million as an initial tranche of counterpart funds toward a Rp 42 million budget submitted for the April/June quarter of contractor operations. Nearly Rp 1 million was deducted for GOI taxes prior to deposit in the RMI account. As of May 31 RMI has overspent the remaining Rp 20 million by Rp 7,4 million. AARD was holding up its request to the National Treasury for the remainder of the budget spending resolution of the problem on which discussion has begun with tax authorities.

4. RMI sent nine AARP participants to the U.S. during May. They are named in the appendix. An additional participant, Mr. M.S. Tambunan of Bogor Research Institute for Food Crops (BORIF), was expected to depart in May for two months training at New Mexico State University in Establishing Data Bases and Analytical Systems for Decision Making in Agriculture. His departure processing encountered some problems, and we expect him to join the program in a few days. The only other participant departures scheduled for June are Mr. Budhoyo Sukotjo, Project Leader, for a short program in research organization, and Mr. I. Dewa M. Tantera of BORIF who will attend a Purdue University program in Pest Management. For July, we have already scheduled nine participants for U.S. training and two for other countries.

May was the first month for sending AARP participants abroad, and RMI has developed a routine which is described in attachment II of this report.

IV. Comments and Conclusions

1. RMI personnel are particularly pleased to be engaged in this project which appears to offer much for the future development of agriculture in Indonesia.

Though the rather long delay in contract clearances caused some problems, we are confident that contract activity will accelerate over coming months. We expect, for example, that several personnel will become available to the project during the July-September quarter.

2. The imposition of a tax on counterpart funds has resulted in substantial outlays of funds by RMI while awaiting resolution of the problem. We are hopeful that the problem will be resolved shortly.

3. Arranging for training programs abroad is a particularly satisfying component of the project. So far, too little lead time has been available to permit adequate planning for individual requirements. However, we have been able to place nine AARD participants in what appear to be excellent USDA training programs. Meanwhile, we have been soliciting information on other appropriate training programs in the U.S. and developing countries, and will be disseminating it to AARD institutions as it becomes available.

4. One of the problems associated with the participant component is the failure of many candidates to pass the English language program. We are considering various approaches to this problem including the possible use of loan funds to finance English language training of prospective participants.

LIST OF AARP/1.1 PARTICIPANTS AS OF MAY 31, 1982

No.	N a m a	Employing Office	Course/Objectives	Institution/Country	Duration
1.	Mr. Achmad Dimyati	Bogor Research Institute for Food Crops	Technical&Economic aspects of Soybean Production	University of Illinois International Soybean Program, USA	May 10-Aug.6, '82
2.	Mrs. Siti Sufiani	Central Res. Inst. for Industrial Crops (CRIIC/Bogor)	Agricultural Research Methodology	Kansas State University, USA	May 31-July 23,'82
3.	Mr. Sudiarto	CRIIC/Bogor	"	"	"
4.	Mrs. Wafiah Akib	Maros Res.Inst. for Food Crops (MRIFC)	"	"	"
5.	Mr. Mohamad Pandang	MRIFC	"	"	"
6.	Mr. Didi K. Suardi	Central Res. Inst. for Food Crops	"	"	"
7.	Mr. Lalu Sukarno	Bogor Res. Inst. for Food Crops	"	"	"
8.	Mr. Yono C. Rahardjo	Central Res. Inst. for Animal Science (CRIAS)	"	"	"
9.	Mr. Tambak Menurung	C R I A S	"	"	"

APPENDIX II

R.M.I. ADMINISTRATION OF AARP PARTICIPANT
TRAINING FUNCTION

Coordination and administration of participant training activities are the responsibility of Mr. James C. Myers in Jakarta and Mr. Walter Flinn in RMI's Washington, D.C. Office.

Coordination of the various aspects in preparing and processing each participant includes the following:

1. Constant coordination with the Training Division of USAID to ensure that reservations for the participants are confirmed and that proper authorization has been requested/received.
2. That language tests have been given and results have been recorded.
3. That PIO/Ps have been initiated and,
4. That telex and written communications between the training institute involved, USAID/Washington, RMI/Washington and USAID/Jakarta are properly coordinated and necessary actions taken.

Once all approvals and reservations have been issued/received, the actual job of preparing the participant begins. This includes:

1. Making airline reservations, following up on reservation, purchasing tickets, securing hotel vouchers, etc. and;
2. Requesting and issuing both travellers checks and cash.

These items are handled by RMI staff, thus saving the participants the difficulty and time of picking up the money and tickets. A brief orientation given to each participant includes provision of a USA map identifying locations of stop-overs, plane changes and actual training sites; a photocopy of the Health and Accident Coverage instructions (USAID does not have copies of this booklet); names and telephone numbers of contact persons at the training institute and RMI's Washington, D.C. office, suggestions on what to see in the states, a briefing on the people, background of the area where they will be living, and general points on what to expect, where to eat and how to travel inexpensively. This orientation takes well over an hour for each participant. Nearly 35% of the Jakarta based Coordinator's time during May 1982 was spent on

participant training activities, even to the point of receiving calls at home to help resolve last minute problems. As May was the first month for sending participants, no doubt more time had to be devoted to the training aspects of the project. Now, as the RMI systems have been set up and USAID regulations understood and a cooperative working relationship established with the USAID Training Division, things should run more smoothly. In the months ahead, the Jakarta based Coordinator, in association with the AARP Chief-of-Party, will be spending more time on exploring the various training possibilities outside the USA and looking at ways to make the training more meaningful to the participant and the project.

With regard to the role of the Washington, D.C. based administrator, similar coordination/administrative functions as listed above (telexes, finances, etc) are applicable. However, the primary role so far has been that of liaison with the USDA and USAID Washington, the several training institutions throughout the United States and with RMI in Jakarta. This has been a major effort because of the lateness in submitting the names (delayed because of the necessary requirements - language tests, etc.) and last minutes changes in training schedules.

Continued discussions with contact people at the Institutions and the USDA/USAID were essential. The major ongoing effort will be sending out the maintenance allowances throughout the training period making the necessary payments to the USDA, assisting in return transportation and exploring other training possibilities.

As in Jakarta, our Washington, D.C. based training administrator has learned a lot during the first month and the appropriate systems and liaison arrangements have been organized to facilitate the anticipated expanding training needs.

CRF/WLC/ib
6/24/'82